

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Vol. 29 No. 3

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Whole No. 342



DIME NOVEL SKETCHES #21

FAR WEST LIBRARY

211 issues beginning January 1907 and ending September 1915; 7½x5, 320 pages, colorful paper covers. Reprinted all or most of the Buffalo Bill Stories, 3 issues to each Far West Library. It was followed by the Buffalo Bill Border stories which reprinted all of the issues and again by a partial reprinting in the Great Western Library.

BUFFALO BILL REPRINTS

By J. Edward Leithead

PART I

There were three separate libraries of Buffalo Bill reprints published by Street & Smith, all book-size novels of 300 pages or more, and when I say reprints I mean just that; there wasn't a single story in these libraries that hadn't been printed before. Far West Library was the first to be launched, in 1907; it ran to 211 issues, as did Buffalo Bill Border Stories, the library which succeeded Far West, and printed exactly the same stories, but with the titles of 17 issues changed and the order in which titles appeared different from the Far West series. The third time these stories were reprinted was in the Great Western Library. But #1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 and 25 were Diamond Dick reprints, so that only 143 Buffalo Bills repeated—and for the last time, December 1932 being the date of the final issue #156, Buffalo Bill and the Klan of Kan.

I am going to try and break down the contents of Far West Library; it won't be a 100% correct job, but the best I can do, for the Buffalo Bill reprints were from many sources (Beadle's Dime and Half Dime Libraries, New York Weekly, Log Cabin Library and the Buffalo Bill Stor-

ies—New Buffalo Bill Weekly doesn't count as it was wholly a reprint series from B. B. Stories) and followed no regular order in republication; it was hardly possible, either, with a long Beadle's Dime or Log Cabin, sometimes two, in one issue, and 3 to 4 Beadle's Half Dime in another. But there were also long stretches where the contents of the Buffalo Bill Stories (not the reprint stuff, which often was a bit mixed up, but original stories) will afford me smoother going.

Far West Library was Buffalo Bill, the Border King, or, Redskin and Cowboy. Col. Prentiss Ingraham, who wrote Buffalo Bills (and a few Jesse James Stories) for Street & Smith after Beadle & Adams folded, authored this one for the first issue of The Buffalo Bill Stories in 1901. But, originally designed to fill a 32-page novel, the yarn was extended to fill a 300-page book-length by W. Bert Foster, who had written for The Buffalo Bill Stories in 1906, and by 1907 (Ingraham had died in 1904) Foster was seasoned enough to do a first-class job of expanding the original into a well-balanced U. S. cavalry-Indian-outlaw tale. Prominent

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characters were Buffalo Bill, Texas Jack and numerous real Army officers.

Reprinted Buffalo Bill Border Stories #1 and Great Western #40.

2 Far West Library **2** was Buffalo Bill's Bid for Fame, or, Staunch and True. Two New York Weekly serials by Ned Buntline, Buffalo Bill's Best Shot, or, The Heart of Spotted Tail, reprinted Log Cabin Library #127 (and again in pocket-size Log Cabin), and Buffalo Bill's Last Victory, or, Dove Eye, the Lodge Queen, reprinted Log Cabin #128 and #386, then both stories combined in the second issue of Far West. Prominent characters were Buffalo Bill, Texas Jack, California Joe and General Custer.

Reprinted Buffalo Bill Border Stories #39 and Great Western #27.

3 Far West **3** was Buffalo Bill's Vengeance, or, A Race for Life. The first part of this book is a reprint of Beadle's Dime #92, Buffalo Bill, the Buckskin King, or, Wild Nell, the Amazon of the West, by Ingraham. The rest is Ingraham, too, but the source not at all clear. There appear to be two stories at the last which are not related to the first, since Wild Nell's name isn't mentioned.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #6 and G. W. #45.

4 Far West **4** was Buffalo Bill's Secret Mission, or, On Government Business. First story is a reprint of Ingraham's Buffalo Bill's Secret Service Trail, or, The Mysterious Foe, Beadle's Dime #682, but the tale combined with it, featuring a "Major Mephisto," road agent, while by Ingraham also, is not traceable by me. Buffalo Bill and Dr. Frank Powell prominent characters. General Custer appears, all too briefly.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #26 and G. W. #22.

5 Far West **5** was Buffalo Bill's Comrades, or, The Queen of the Sioux. The first story in this book is a reprint of Log Cabin #152, Buffalo Bill, the Border King, or, The White Queen of the Sioux and the Girl Rifle shot, by "E. W. Wheeler" (Robert

Russell, creator of Diamond Dick) and repeated as #392, same library. This story, a long one, ends on page 190, and Chapter XXI—The Ghost-Dance, starts a new one about the Indian trouble that ended at Wounded Knee Creek. There is another story on the same subject in a later issue of Far West, #8 to be exact, but the stories are quite different, and this one in #5 is a reprint of Log Cabin #134, Buffalo Bill's Best Bower, or, The Soldier Scout's Last Trail, by "E. W. Wheeler" (Harry St. George Rathborne), repeated, same library, as #394. Both, originally, were no doubt New York Weekly serials. Here is a puzzler: the style of writing in neither of them is Ingraham's, yet under the Street & Smith copyright 1901-1907 appears "Renewal granted to Mrs. Rosa L. Ingraham, 1929." Do not be misled by the Log Cabin title, Buffalo Bill, the Border King—it isn't the same story that was #1 of The Buffalo Bill Stories and also #1 of the Far West Library. The chief characters in #5 are Buffalo Bill and Wild Bill.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #10 and G. W. #49.

6 Far West **6** was Buffalo Bill's Triumph, or, The Red Arrow. A reprint of Beadle's Dime #750, Buffalo Bill's Big Four, or, Custer's Shadow, by Ingraham, and another Beadle's Dime by him that I can't place. Prominent characters: Buffalo Bill, General Custer and Texas Jack. Quite a bit of Custer this time.

Reprinted B. B. Stories #40 and G. W. #35.

7 Far West **7** was Buffalo Bill's Captains, or, In Death Valley. Apparently this book is a reprint of Beadle's Dime #761, Buffalo Bill's Mascot, or, The Death Valley Victim No. 13, and none other—its print is widely spaced with wide margins. It's Ingraham. Chief characters are Buffalo Bill and Doc Powell.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #8 and G. W. #47.

8 Far West **8** was Buffalo Bill's Bravery, or, Among the "Bad Lands" Indians. This story—it fills the entire

book—is a reprint of Log Cabin Library #103, Buffalo Bill at Wounded Knee, or, The Battle-Secret of the Bad Lands, by "W. B. Lawson" (Robert Russell), repeated as #388. An unusually good frontiersmen-cavalry-Indian tale, with the ghost-dance business featured. Buffalo Bill is in it with Doc Powell ("White Beaver" to the Indians), Louis Rameau, Yankton Charley and Buckskin Jack Russell.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #3 and G. W. #42.

PI Far West #9 was Buffalo Bill's Border Duel, or, On the Gold Trail. Reprint of Beadle's Dime #769, Buffalo Bill's Sweepstake, or, The Wipe-out at Last Chance. Ingraham. A curious thing about this story is that an apparently different version of the same plot, with practically the same cast of characters, appears in Far West #27.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #38 and G. W. #34.

PI Far West #10 was Buffalo Bill's Long Trail, or, Running Down the Black Cavalry, a full-length reprint of Ingraham's Buffalo Bill's Relentless Trail, or, The Unknown Slayer of the Black Cavalry, Beadle's Dime #979, with Buffalo Bill, Wild Bill, and Dr. Frank Powell working in harness—they, with Texas Jack added, were four frontiersmen on whom Ingraham doted. Quite naturally. He knew them all very well.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #27 and G. W. #24.

PI Far West #11 was Buffalo Bill's Death Call, or, On a Red Trail. This is a reprint of Beadle's Dimers #394, White Beaver, the Exile of the Platte and #397, The Wizard Brothers, both by Prentiss Ingraham. These were, originally, stories of the Powell brothers, Frank, George and Bill. As written for Beadle's Dime Library, Buffalo Bill wasn't in either story, but in the Far West Library version he takes the place of Dr. Frank Pow-

ell, even ministering to a village of smallpox-stricken Sioux and opposed by the bitter hatred of the chief medicine man. It was asking too much, even of a Buffalo Bill fan, to believe Cody, no doctor, could do what Doc Powell did medically for that village in the original tale. The Powell brothers remain in the combined stories as pards of Cody.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #42 and G. W. #38.

PI Far West #12 was Buffalo Bill's Still Hunt, or, The Robber of the Range, reprint of Beadle's Dime #727 Buffalo Bill's Body Guard, or, The Still Hunt of the Hills and #722, Buffalo Bill on the War Path, or, Silk Lasso Sam, the Will-o'-the-Wisp of the Trails. Author, Ingraham. Later on, as I will show, the title Buffalo Bill's Body Guard, was used again for a book the contents of which were entirely different. Prominent characters in the above combined stories, Buffalo Bill, Texas Jack and White Beaver.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #44 and G. W. #31.

PI Far West #13 was Buffalo Bill's Prairie Scout, or, On the War Path, reprint of Beadle's Dime #1009, Buffalo Bill's Deadshot Dragoon, or, The Hidden Home of Shadow Valley, by Ingraham. Long enough to fill the entire book.

Reprinted B. B. Border Stories #46
(to be continued)

WHOSE POND IS THIS?

by Edward G. Ingraham

Have you felt, at one time or another, that it might be advisable to swing those skates out over a sheet of ice to check whether one spot was thin, or not? And with the ice thin at your testing, you still knew that the safety of that pond or "crick" was important to two hundred and thirty friends who were enjoying the

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

232 George L. Setman III, 364 Milford Square Rd., Quakertown, Pa. (New)

ice with you? That's the position that this member, of less than a year in the H. H. Bro., is in. If my ankles are still not strong enough to do a good job of skating on the Dime Novel pond, I trust you will understand.

This understanding is hoped for because of a notice that appeared on page 6 of the Dime Novel Roundup, January, 1961. Because this writer has been a member of the H. H. Bro. less than a year (that fraction of time contributes to the envy of the years of collecting and enjoying novels that fine persons as William Burns, Don Learnard and other friends whom I've met through correspondence, have had)—because my membership is recent, this financial statement was the first that concerned me. Surely the net loss of \$170.70 that resulted last year represents a potential danger to the Dime Novel pond and the years ahead of skating that most of us want to enjoy.

As all of us have found, the Roundup is an interesting place—a spot where those equipped with the most expensive steel skates or those of us with only the lowly runners that have to be strapped to the shoes may still enjoy ourselves. Where, but in the Roundup, would this newcomer have learned of other interesting and worth while libraries besides Work and Win, Young Wild West Weekly, or the Liberty Boys of '76. Where, but in this monthly issue, could be found the tremendous amount of information on the novel that men like Adimare, Leithead, Rodgers, and Burns are so willing to give.

When membership renewal time rolls around again, would it not be possible for those who have been members for a year or more voluntarily to raise their own admission fees to our friendly skating area, from two dollars to three? As a result, the thin spot of \$170.70 would not be a threat to enjoyment during the coming year; and the Roundup would be making its monthly appearance so long as Mr. LeBlanc would care to edit and the readers wanted

to receive it.

Respectfully,
Yours for Safety

ADVICE TO COLLECTORS

By Charles Bragin

SPEND WISELY. A small amount of money on a **PLANNED COLLECTION** will bring the best results in pleasure—and profit.

DO NOT spend large sums of money for large lots of unrelated items—that would result, not in a collection, but a “job lot” of little value.

Here are some plans used by dime novel collectors:

1. Collect one each of all dime novel publications—this makes the most interesting collection for the smallest amount of money.
2. Collect publications of personal interest—your boyhood favorite “Weeklies” and build up complete sets of same.
3. Collect a few novels of each of the dime novel writers.
4. Collect all the novels written by some favorite writers—Ingraham, Patten, Buntline, Wheeler, etc.
5. Collect dime novels relating to some favorite hero — Deadwood Dick, Diamond Dick, Buffalo Bill, the James Boys, the Western Scouts, Merriwell, etc.
6. Collect dime novels relating to **LOCALITY**—your State, etc. This plan is widely used by Libraries from Coast to Coast.
7. Collect items covering some favorite **SUBJECT** — for example, baseball men collect dime novels relating to that sport (Judge Bramham presented a fine collection of same to the Cooperstown Hall of Fame)—the President of an Insurance Company collects “fire fighting” dime novels—a leading undertaker collects dime novels with “graveyard scenes”—Airplane Company executives collect “airship” dime novels—circus fans collect dime novels about the circus—sleuth story collectors like Ellery Queen collect “detective

dime novels"—etc.

Choose a plan that appeals to you personally, that will give you the most pleasure—and confine your buying to same—and it will result in a valuable COLLECTION, besides giving 100% enjoyment.

A FEW DO'S AND DON'T'S To Our Newer Members Especially By Don S. Learnard

As one of the oldest members of the Happy Hours Brotherhood I am about to give the benefit of my long experience in dime novel collecting.

Never get discouraged after spending day after day in scouring old bookstores and finding "almost what you want" or nothing at all.

Talk to all your friends and let them know what you are after. You never know where you are going to find a "gold mine." Keep track of what you see in your searching as sometimes you may find other items, which can be traded for dime novels, but don't buy anything you cannot use. Make a note of what you find and come back later if you can find a customer. That stuff will not run away.

Don't write to collectors and ask them to send you a list of dime novels which they have for sale or to trade. To compile such a list means spending a whole evening handling over their duplicates and listing and nine times out of ten you will never write them again. Send them a list of WHAT YOU WANT and ask them if they have any or those items or can tell you where they can be obtained. If you MUST ask them for a list, send them a dollar, to be credited with your first order or if any one asks you for your list of duplicates, tell them to send you a dollar. Most people who write for these lists are merely curiosity seekers.

Don't be afraid to spend a little money for dime novels which you would otherwise spend on the horses, dogs or at the poker parties.

Don't send novels on approval un-

less you KNOW the party. Always sell on the principle of "Money Back if not Satisfied." Oh yes, I agree with the Catholic priest who said, "Everybody is honest!" but remember, the most honest people are also the most FORGETFUL. Be fair; don't swap confetti for good copies.

If you need an item badly in order to fill in a gap in an unbroken run; accept a poor copy and repair it and keep it until you can replace it with a better one.

In repairing damaged copies NEVER USE SCOTCH TAPE. It is terrible stuff. It is water-proof and cannot be removed by soaking. It also curls and becomes rounded like a lead pipe. If you try to remove it, you will rip the reading matter or picture on the cover. Use MAGIC MENDING TAPE, price 39c per small roll. This is put out by the Minnesota Mining and Mfg. Co., St. Paul, Minn. This is exceptionally good at closing up tears. For example, if a page is torn at the middle and the tear runs halfway down, this tape can be applied to the rip, then wet with the tongue and it becomes invisible and is not glossy or shiney like ordinary scotch tape, nor does it stick to the tape next to it. (By the use of this Magic Tape the writer recently made a beautiful copy of one item which was torn in the middle down about five inches on every page and both covers.)

Do not use glue as the paper will wrinkle or bubble up. Mix up a little quantity of paper-hanger's paste, lay it across an old newspaper and paint the reverse with a 25c paint brush which you can afterwards soak out in water and use over and over again. When this dries you will have a smooth and flat picture.

Many collectors object to stapling 5c colored covered weeklies into manila folders, but by so doing you can handle and read the old timers without touching them. Should you desire to remove the books and leave them bare; you can remove the staples and place a manila folder over the holes, pound them lightly with a hammer

and you can completely obliterate the tiny holes. NEVER use MORE THAN TWO STAPLES.

Avoid all collectors who do not have the common decency to ANSWER any letter you may write to them.

Don't take seriously all the second-hand book dealer tells you. If you ask for Tousay publications he will ALWAYS say, "I had a stack THAT high last week but a fellow came in and bought the whole lot. No, I don't know his name." It will always be "Last Week." What satisfaction this gives them I don't know.

WANTED

Sport Story Magazine in good condition. May 8, 1926, May 22, 1926, June 22, 1926, Oct. 22, 1926, Dec. 22, 1926, April 22, 1927, May 8, 1927. Also The Young Crusaders published by the Werner Company, Akron, Ohio about 1910.

Fritz Moore

Department of Modern Languages
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas

WANTED

New Buffalo Bill Weekly 328, 329.
Old Sleuth Library 1, 11, 14, 37.
Comic Library 9, 44, 45, 50, 51, 84, 119
Wide Awake Library 619
Beadle Half Dime Library 20 28 35
49 73 77 100 104 109 129 140 156
138 195 201 205 217 221 232 263
268 309 321 347 351 363 405 410
834 858 951 957
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ROY E. MORRIS

901 East Michigan Ave.

Orlando, Florida

DIME AND NICKEL NOVELS

- Bowery Boy Library. Complete set, 100 numbers, \$100.
All Sports. Complete set, 56 numbers, \$60.
Motor Stories. Complete set, 32 numbers, \$25.
Frank Manley's Weekly—Young Athletes Weekly. Lot of about 30 numbers. 50c to \$1.25 each.
Deadwood Dick Library. Ivers edition, with three color covers. 3 for \$1.00. Complete set, 64 numbers, \$15.
Deadwood Dick Library. English edition. 3 for \$1.00.
Beadle's Boys' Library. (Ivers edition) No. 1 to 64, all that were issued. Lacks No. 2. Bound in two volumes. \$40.
Mystery Magazine (Tousey) No. 9, 24, 26, 29. 50c each.
Tip Top Weekly. Over 200 numbers below No. 264 (all small size). Price \$1 to \$2.50 each. Large size above No. 265, \$1.50 each. About 150 numbers between No. 300 and 500, \$1.00 each. Nearly all on hand above No. 500 at 60c each. A new lot of nice copies now in stock. Send want list.
The Novelette. Novelette Library. Owl Library. All published by Studley before 1899. \$1 and \$2 per copy.
Beadle's Dime Library. \$1.00, \$1.50, and a few higher.
Wild West Weekly (Billy West novels). 50c each.
Old Sleuth Weekly \$1.25 each.
Old Sleuth Library \$1.00 each, and up.
Up to Date No. 33. Very good copy. \$2.50.
Old Cap Collier Library. Later detective issues, \$1.00 each.
Young Rover Library. 25 fine copies, the lot for \$25.00.
Nick Carter Weekly (Color cover, small size). Between No. 4 and 227. About 150 numbers, \$1.00 to \$3.00 each. No. 240 to 360 in fine condition, \$1.50 each. Average copies, cheaper.
Buffalo Bill Stories. Have some fine copies, trimmed on the edges for binding, \$1.00 each. Also, bound volumes, at various prices.
Secret Service. Between No. 728 and 1110, \$1.00 and \$1.25 each.
Bound to Win Library. Some numbers available at 50c each.
Pluck and Luck. Some numbers between No. 500 and 874 in fine condition at \$1.25, \$1.50 and up. Send your want list.
Work and Win. Some numbers between No. 7 and 300, in average condition, at 75c each. Good ones at \$1.00 and up.

CLOTHBOUND BOOKS:

- Bram Stoker: Dracula. Grosset edition, brand new. Thriller. 75c.
Leslie: Famous Leaders and Battle Scenes of the Civil War. 544 large pages. Old timer, not a recent imitation. \$15.00.
Album of American History. 418 big pages. 1300 illusts. The \$7.50 edition. Covers 1783-1853. \$4.00.
Old Boston. 1896. Nice book with 35 etchings. \$2.00.

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Subject to prior sale.

RALPH P. SMITH

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Lawrence, Mass.